

SECRET - EXDISSALT TWO
SESSION I
A-91MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION
U.S. SALT DELEGATION
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

DATE: December 14, 1972

TIME: 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

PLACE: Soviet Mission,
Geneva

SUBJECT: SALT

PARTICIPANTS:

US

USSR

Dr. Edward M. Ifft

Col. V. V. Budantsev
Dr. K. V. Iozava

Col. Budantsev asked me for my impressions of our first session. I replied that while it had been useful, I would have to say that I was a little disappointed by the lack of contact between the positions of the two sides. Budantsev said he would make a more positive assessment. He said that the sides had essentially fulfilled what they had set out to accomplish in this first session, which was admittedly a preparatory one. The sides had made contact on some points and had succeeded in working out the charter for the SCC. I agreed that there had been concrete accomplishments. Budantsev then added that the session had not yet ended, and there was still the possibility that positions might be changed in the concluding statements.

Budantsev asked when I thought we would conclude our work in Geneva. I said that I personally hoped we would be able to finish by December 21. This did not seem to cause Budantsev any discomfort, but he said the Soviet Delegation would be leaving Geneva by train a few days later than this. I asked Budantsev whether he would be returning to the next session. He replied that he did not know. I asked whether there were many people in Moscow who wanted to be on the Soviet Delegation. He replied that personal desires were not much of a factor--the composition of the Soviet Delegation was more or less decreed by the Chairman of the Delegation and other higher authorities.

I talked briefly with Dr. Iozava, a heart specialist who serves as the Soviets' Delegation Physician. He is a Georgian who seems both intelligent and pleasant. I asked whether he had enough work on the delegation to occupy his time. He replied that he had plenty to do owing to the many illnesses among delegation members. The advanced age of many of the delegates and advisors and the effects of a change in climate were the primary causes of these problems.

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State Department review